GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3786
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004
FILES REQUIRED FOR AUDIT
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C&AG in its report No.7 2004 (Air Force & Navy) has stated that Navy and Air Force failed to provide number of files requisitioned for audit during October 1995 and March 2003 where expenditure involved in each case was Rs. 10 crore or more;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to inquire into the matter and make those files available to Audit;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government on each para of Report No. 7 of 2004;

(f) the number of audit paras pending with the Ministry of Defence from 31.3.1996 onwards together with reasons for not replying them; and

(g) the time by which those audit paras is likely to be replied?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) C&AG in its Report No. 7 of 2004 had stated that 5 files of Air Force and Navy requisitioned by Audit during the period between October 1995 and March 2003, where expenditure involved was Rs. 10 crore or more, were not made available to Audit.

(b) to (d): Four files out of five referred to above have since been sent to Audit. The fifth file pertains to Defence Research & Development Organisation`s `Top Secret` project. Therefore, the same has not been forwarded. However, the file can be perused by a representative of C&AG at the DRDO`s Headquarters with the approval of the competent authority.

(e) The Audit Paragraphs contained in the C&AG`s Report No. 7 of 2004 (Air Force & Navy) are at various stages of processing in the Ministry of Defence for furnishing the Action Taken Notes.

(f) At present, a total number of 237 audit paragraphs are pending, including those from 31.3.1996 onwards. Delay in preparation of Action Taken Notes takes place due to the fact that the information/material to prepare the ATNs for Audit Paras are required to be collected from various agencies including those in the field area spread all over India.

(g) All out efforts are being made to reply the pending Audit Paras expeditiously.